

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

27 May 1968

Agriculture - Forest Service

25X1A

Planned budget

FY 69 - Section 61 (Agriculture) Subsection D 7
(Forestry) non-Communist



Elimination of the Forest Service contract would deny the NIS the support of the only knowledgeable forestry office in the national Government -- a field which is of major importance to analysis and understanding of from one-third to one-half of the underdeveloped foreign countries, and which is significant for the industry, trade and commerce of a good share of the others.

CIA components such as OER maintain no competence in forestry matters (beyond keeping a minimum of published statistics). It would place a heavy burden on ERS-Agriculture to obtain and provide forestry information from Forest Service for the NIS Program (e.g., as to the significance of forest products for industry, as fuel, and as elements in international trade) - for which they would certainly insist on extra contract funds of their own.

QUALITY:

Forestry contributions are technically knowledgeable and accurate; recent "streamlining" has substantially reduced the length of these studies - in particular the discussion of technical data of interest primarily to specialists, which has been curtailed and relegated to tabular summaries.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~